

III. Remarks

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

After entering this amendment, claims 34-48 remain pending in the application. Claims 1-33 were previously cancelled. The undersigned gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 34-48.

A. Objection to Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter with regard to (1) the mass percentage ranges of claims 37 and 39; (2) the sintered and fused materials of claim 37; and (3) the properties recited in claims 42-48. These objections are addressed in turn below.

1. The mass percentage ranges of claims 37 and 39.

The specification has been amended to add a paragraph to address the allegation in the Office Action that the specification did not provide a proper antecedent basis for the mass percentages of claims 37 and 39. The added paragraph recites:

A shaped body of the present invention may comprise from 60 to 99.5% by mass of the resistor component and from 0.5 to 40% by mass of the elasticizer component.

Support for this amendment may be found in claim 8, as originally filed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

2. The sintered and fused materials of claim 37.

Paragraph 10 of the specification has been amended to address the allegation in the Office Action that the specification did not provide a proper antecedent basis for the sintered and fused materials of claim 37. The amended paragraph recites:

[0010] According to the invention, sintered magnesia and/or

fused magnesia or sintered dolomite and/or fused dolomite, selected from among the numerous known resistors, is/are used as basic resistor. In addition, the resistor component may contain one or more of the following, sintered MgO, fused magnesia, sintered dolomite, and fused dolomite. Calcium aluminate having a $\text{CaO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ratio of from 0.14 to 0.2, in particular of the chemical composition $\text{CaAl}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$ having the oxide formula $\text{CaO} \cdot 6\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ or the abbreviated formula CA_6 , has been found as an elasticizer.

Support for this amendment may be found in claim 7, as originally filed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

3. The properties recited in claims 42-48.

The specification has been amended to add a paragraph to address the allegation in the Office Action that the specification did not provide a proper antecedent basis for the properties recited in claims 42-48. The added paragraph recites:

A shaped body of the present invention may have a porosity of from 12 to 25% by volume. A shaped body may also have a porosity of from 14 to 23% volume. A shaped body of the present invention may have a cold compressive strength above 35 MPa, and a cold flexural strength above 2 MPa. In addition, a shaped body of the present invention may have a cold compressive strength above 45 MPa, and a cold flexural strength above 2 MPa. Further, a shaped body of the present invention may have a modulus of elasticity of from 14 to 35 GPa, and a shear modulus of from 6 to 15 GPa. A shaped body of the present invention may have a modulus of elasticity of from 15 to 32 GPa, and a shear modulus of from 7 to 14 GPa. A shaped body of the present invention may have a thermal shock resistance of greater than 80.

Support for this amendment and the properties of claims 42-48 may be found in the originally filed claims 11-17, respectively. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance should be issued. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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